

Message Text

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13

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APPROVED BY EB/MA:RBANK

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TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, NO, US

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN SHIPPING DELEGATION/FEDERAL MARITIME
COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

REF: A) STATE 189928 B) B YRNE/PINKNEY TELCOM, OCTOBER 1

1. THERE FOLLOWS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER 13
DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE FMC COMMISSIONERS AND THE NORWEGIAN
SHIPPING DELEGATION BASED ON A SHORT MEMORANDUM OF CONVER-
SATION PROVIDED BY THE FMC. COPY OF MEMORANDUM AIRPOUCHED.

2. BILATERALISM, PARTICULARLY IN THE US-SOUTH AMERICAN
TRADES, AND THE FEAR AND OPPOSITION THAT NORWEGIAN SHIP-
PING INTERESTS HAVE OF ITS BECOMING US SHIPPING POLICY IN
ALL US TRADES WAS THE MAJOR PROBLEM DISCUSSED IN THIS
REGARD, THE COMMISSIONERS INDICATED THEIR PRIME RESPONSI-
BILITY IS TO INSURE THAT THE FOREIGN WATERBORNE COMMERCE
OF THE UNITED STATES IS FAIRLY AND PROPERLY SERVED. POINTS
EMPHASIZED BY THE COMMISSIONERS WERE:

A) WHEN SERVICES OF CROSS TRADES ARE NEEDED, THE US IS
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DELIGHTED TO USE SCANDINAVIAN-FLAG VESSELS, PARTICULARLY

NORWEGIAN SERVICE.

B) SINCE US-FLAG VESSELS ARE NOT CROSS-TRADERS, THEY MUST CARRY A GOOD SHARE OF US FOREIGN COMMERCE.

C) WHEN US CARRIER PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN FOREIGN TRADE IS REDUCED TO 5 TO 10 PER CENT, IT IS CONSIDERED A DISCRIMINATION AFFECTING US WATERBORNE COMMERCE.

D) THE COMMISSION HAS "AGONIZED" OVER SOME BILATERAL AND POOLING AGREEMENTS THAT AFFECTED NORWEGIAN CARRIERS.

E) WHEN POSSIBLE, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO PROTECT THIRD-FLAG CARRIERS.

F) FMC CONSIDERATION OF US-FLAG CARRIERS IS PREDOMINATE, PARTICULARLY IN THE USE OF SECTION 19 ORDERS.

3. REMAINDER OF CONVERSATION TOUCHED ON TANKER, CRUISE, LNG AND BULK CARRIER OPERATIONS. KISSINGER

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